# Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

VOL. XXVIII

MARCH, 1917

No. 1

#### WE MAKE OUR BOW

With this issue the young men of the Agenda Class presents the new Visitor for your approval. It is felt by the class that there really does exist a need for the Visitor, and the help and approval that is coming from sides seems to justify the time and effort the class is giving it. The final success of the venture remains to be seen. It will depend somewhat on the support of the membership. This support the young men believe they will get, and if all goes well the Visitor should become a power for good in the church and community. To attain this end the young men want every member of Grace Church to feel that he or she is partly responsible for the success of the Visitor, and that insofar as possible the columns are open to every member.

The Visitor is not a money-making project, but if, with the support of the members, the young men can make this little paper a true record of Grace Church plans and happenings, a medium for praise and helpful criticism, and above all a stimulus to better work they will feel well repaid for all it has cost

them

Therefore, BOOST for your church and church paper! Do all you can for us, and—WATCH US GROW!

#### THE AGENDA CLASS.

Grace Church Boosters, who are they? All who attend the services, who bring their friends, who feel responsible for her tasks, who say a good word for her to others, and especially all who pray for her.

Be a Booster.

Has your neighbor ever been your guest at the service in Grace Church?

#### THE VISITOR

(By the Pastor.)

Once again the Visitor makes its appearance. The long-felt want and the cherished hope of the members of Grace Church are to be met and realized. Nothing that Grace Church has attempted in recent months began more auspiciously than does this revival of our parish paper. The Agenda Classthat organization of young men of the Sunday school who knows what things need to be done and who have the ability to do them-presenting to you these pages. Financially under the management of Mr. Baumgartner success is assured. Editorially under the direction of Mr. Schiffer equal success is promised. Every Agenda is lovally supporting the work of the Visitor. The pastor compliments these young men on their worthy endeavor.

Bear in mind that these pages come to you in the interest of Grace Church. They are intended to be indeed a "Visitor." You are asked to open your hearts and your homes and to welcome this friend. Learn from it concerning the affairs of your church. Bear to it the notes of interest you may possess. Think about it and endeavor to find some way in which it may serve you bet-Then give those thoughts to the management. Study it. Follow wisely where it leads. It will rekindle and replenish the fire of your interest in workings of Grace Church. And then don't forget that this Visitor comes to you with the express purpose of making you realize more fully your duties at Grace and Grace's need of you and your talents. Grace Church is your church and the Visitor wants you to be keenly conscious of it. May this and each succeeding copy serve to bring you and Grace Church into a closer relationship!

#### CHURCH BREVITIES

Grace Church—the friendly church. Mrs. H. E. Baum continues seriously

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Schiffer upon the arrival of a daughter.

The Mary B. Hoy Missionary Auxiliary held their monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Leikauf on February 5th. Miss Ruth Gumpper was the instructor for the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Deahl are now living in their new home, 1058 Delaware avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Close have returned from a trip through Florida.

They report a fine time.

Misses Bertha Weikert, Lulu Bitner, Minnie Rodenbeck, Mrs. Knot spent an afternoon recently at the Rudisill Home north of the city. They report a pleasant time.

The Agenda class held its February business meeting at the home of Ray Deahl, 1058 Delaware, Ave. It was one of the best business meetings held in some time.

Mrs. Clarence Potts is in the hospital and we all wish for her speedy recovery.

A number of the young ladies of the church have realized the importance of knowing more about the Heidelberg Catechism and have formed a class for an extensive study. Rev. Schaaf, who is teacher, meets the members of the class at 7:00 o'clock Wednesday evenings.

On account of the cold weather on Feb. 4 and 11 church was held in the

Sunday School rooms.

Rev. Mr. Schaaf has been giving us a number of excellent sermons taken from lives of prominent characters in the Old Testament. Everyone who has heard these sermons could not help but be inspired, and resolve to read the Bible more often and more studiously.

February 4 was indeed a notable day, not for the large crowds which came to the church, but rather for the few people who risked having frozen ears. There being but few people for the

#### "200 SUNDAY"

When the attendance in the Sunday School began to grow the idea of having a "200 Sunday" was suggested. The idea was well received, and Sunday, March 11, has been selected as the day when we will try to reach the 200 mark. To do this we shall have to get out every member possible, as well as some visitors. Do not let anything keep you away from Sunday School March 11, whether you are a member or not. If the weather should be bad, that will only be a reason why everyone should make a great effort to be there. There will be no postponement, and we trust no disappointments, so come snow, rain or shine. We must have you there.

evening service, we united with the Salem Church, where we heard an excellent sermon by Rev. Kratz on "Restitution."

The choir rendered a musical program on Sunday evening, February 11. We were pleased to notice that a large number of visitors were present, which no doubt was the result of the pastor's cordial welcome and the personal advertising by the members. A lengthy "write-up" will not be required. Let us have some more of these programs.

The Christian Endeavor Society gave a Valentine party on February 13. It is needless to say that everyone present

enjoyed himself.

Late reports are to the effect that Mr. Frank More is improving nicely.

A Junior Christian Endeavor Society has been organized, and it is scarcely necessary to say that every meeting has been very successful, due no doubt to the approval of such an organization by both the parents and the children. The need of this organization has long been felt by the Christian Endeavor Society of our church. As the meetings are held on Sunday afternoons every child should attend and receive the muchneeded training for later life. The Visitor wishes to urge parents to send their children to these meetings.

#### ATTENTION, LADIES!

March 22—Social afternoon at home of Mrs. Kanning, 949 Erie Street. Assisting hostesses will be Mrs. Nyffler (chairman), Mesdames Gavin, Henderson, Ruck, Gemmer, Rogers, Shrack, Shunk, Shults, Botteran, Masel, Schroeder.

The officers of Doremus Guild extend to all women of Grace Church a hearty welcome to all of their meetings.

The enthusiasm shown at the all-day sewings is remarkable. Beside a great amount of work accomplished, the sociability entered into is a great factor for bringing the women of the church in closer contact with one another. It "binds their hearts in Christian love" and service. A special feature is the noon lunch. Every woman brings her own. Variety? Well, come and see for yourself.

The need for every member of Grace Church to use "Bursley's Goods" is as urgent as ever. Up to date 1,570 checks have been placed to our credit, and only nine more months to get the required 2,430. Everybody help. Ask your neighbors and friends to save their coupons for us.

Sunday evening, March 11, the Women's Missionary society will take charge of the services. It's to be the Thank Offering Service, with an address along missionary lines by our Pastor, Rev. Schaaf. At this time all members holding mite boxes will bring them. The free-will offering placed upon the collection plates will go towards our mission work and we hope that it will be a very liberal one. Everyone is invited to come and bring his friend.

A record breaker social afternoon last Thursday at the home of Mrs. C. Heyman, with seventy-four ladies present.

Orders taken by our Sewing Committee for quilts, comforts and aprons of

all kinds. See Mrs. John Schneider (chairman), Cass Street; telephone Black 2824.

#### WAITE

As this issue of the Visitor was being prepared there came the sad news of the death of Mrs. Joseph Waite. While not entirely unexpected, the news was nevertheless a shock to all of her many friends. The funeral was held on Wednesday, February 28, with burial in the cemetery at Leo, Ind. The sympathy of the entire church goes out to the husband and son who have so early in life lost their wife and mother. The deceased was of an unusually cheerful disposition, notwithstanding her affliction, and on this account perhaps as much as on any other she was known and well liked by all. Her example might well be followed by all of us.

## THE PASTOR REPORTS THE FOLLOWING:

#### Burials.

Mrs. Desta Pearl Bunting, died December 2, 1916. Mrs. Bunting was a member of Grace Church.

Mr. William Wesley Moore, died Desember 10, 1916. Mr. Moore was a member of Grace Church.

Miss Grace Haines died January 29, 1917, a member of Grace Sunday School.

#### Baptisms.

Jennie Mae Stout. Carl Erwin Stout. Elizabeth Catherine Snook. Elmer Charles Schrader.

Rev. Schaff visited his parents at Spencerville, Ohio, for a few days recently.

Miss Hazel Gooley has been visiting relatives and friends in Huntington, Indiana.

The friends of Darrel Copenhaver will be glad to know that he is recovering from a very severe attack of typhoid fever. He is at Hope Hospital.

#### GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

Published monthly by the Young Men's Agenda Class. George M. Shiffer.......Editor-in-Chief

George M. Shiffer .......Editor-in-Chief E. W. Baumgartner ......Business Manager Subscription price, 25 cents a year.

Items for the Visitor should be received by the Editor not later than the last Sunday in the month to insure publication in the succeeding issue.

The most serious fault is to be conscious of none.

The new electric lighting system in the Sunday School and lecture rooms is decidedly fine. Why was it not done long ago?

In the next Visitor should appear the announcement of a splendid Easter program in Grace Church. Let us make it a great day!

There's truth here-

"The mintage of wisdom is to know that rest is rust, and that real life is in love, laughter and work."

-Elbert Hubbard.

Indiana dry! That indeed will be glorious. Gradually right is getting the best of wrong. A large work still ahead is to eliminate the Sunday theatres and get after the poolrooms.

A splendid custom was adopted when the Consistory divided its body into standing committees. A committee to look after each phase of church work will mean specialized effort that could not be obtained in any other way.

Why does not someone volunteer to take charge of a Sunday School orchestra? If we had an orchestra for a while we would wonder how it is that we have managed so long to get along without one. This is something we could have if we would only try.

Easter is coming! And there are things to think about if we are to approach the day in the right kind of a spirit. Better resolve right now to give up those things, both big and little, that may be interfering with you in doing

the work for the church that you ought to be doing. There is no better time than right now to start consistent living.

It would do every member of Grace Church good to watch the attendance chart in the Sunday School room. There is no better barometer of conditions in the church than the growth and condition of the Sunday School. And, by the way, if every member of Grace Church who could be were in the Sunday School the results shown by the chart would be ever so much greater. How about you?

When you think of the high cost of living remember that the cost of keeping up a church has been going up too. If the Lord has been good to you—and, of course, he has—why not show your gratitude by giving a larger amount to your church. There are a good many tithers—that is, those who give to the work one-tenth of their income—in Grace Church, and ask anyone of them and the answer will be always the same: It is the right way to give and brings blessed returns.

To reach the pastor of Grace Church by telephone call No. 882 Black.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leikauf and Mrs. Gooley have been on the sick list.

When the women of the church set out to do something you may know that it will be a success. Evidence of this has been brought to our attention. for on February 21 the women met at Mrs. Ruck's home on Hurd Street for their weekly all-day sewing. Twenty women were present and we are told that they had a merry time; in fact, a winter picnic, for the individual dinners were consolidated into one big sumptuous feast. However, not all the time was spent in merry-making, for this is not the policy of Grace Church women at these all-day sewings. They went to sew and by questioning these women you will learn that they turned out a very large amount of work.

#### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Beginning with the first Sunday in October the Sunday School entered upon the Increase Campaign which the Sunday School Board has arranged in commemoration of 400th anniversary of the Reformation, the points to attain being a 20 per cent. increase in membership, 70 per cent. average attendance and the raising of a \$100,000 endowment fund, each class to subscribe for one or more \$5.00 shares, the campaign to run for six months, ending the last of March. The campaign has been of great benefit to our school, we having increased our membership 30 per cent. and our attendances have been very high, and with the exception of a few Sundays when the weather was bad our percentage has been very much above the required amount and running as high as 94 per cent. Our classes are all arranging to subscribe to the endowment fund. There are only a few more Sundays left in which to make a record and we hope for large attendances during the month of March.

Our classes are nearly all organized and doing very effective work. Sunday School papers are now being supplied to the scholars, who find them very interesting and helpful.

In place of quarterlies the teachers of the Bible classes have each been furnished with "Peloubets Notes."

Sunday, March 11, will be observed as "200 day", full announcement appearing elsewhere in this issue.

There are a great many babies and children under four years of age that we should have on our Cradle Roll. If you know of any give their names to either Mrs. W. F. Close, Mrs. William Siebold, Mrs. H. E. Metzner or Mrs. Frank Leikauf, who have this department in charge.

The new Sunday School papers—the Boys' World and the Girls' Companion—have been welcome visitors since the beginning of February. Whether these papers or others are finally subscribed

for permanently, one thing is certain, and that is the Sunday School will have papers. The boys and girls can depend on it.

#### THE HEIDELBERG CLASS

The Heidelberg class held a bake sale in the Gas Office on Saturday, February 10, the proceeds being over \$10.00. They were very proud of this. They are also planning to give an entertainment on April 19. The class will hold their next business meeting at the home of Mrs. J. W. Brewer, 1302 Spy Run Ave.

Mrs. Garry Disler has been on the sick list but is much improved and we will be glad to have her with us again.

#### THE ALTRUISTS

Miss Bertha Weikert is teacher of this wide-awake class of seven girls.

Since the first of October there have been four Sundays when all of this class were present at Sunday School. Where is a class that can beat this record?

The girls of this class have sold fifty calendars, and have in this way raised \$5.00 for the Endowment Fund. The money is ready whenever it is called for.

#### EXCELSIOR CLASS.

Last meeting was held at the home of the teacher, Mr. Ray Deahl, 1058 Delaware Ave.

The class elected the following officers:

Ralph Rogers, President.

Luellyn Klippinger, Vice-President.

Orville Waite, Secretary. George Odey, Treasurer.

Our February business meeting was to be held at the home of Herbert Ruck, 1010 Hurd street, but on account of the death of Orville Waite's mother the meeting was postponed.

The class extends their deepest sympathy to the bereaved family.

The class is hoping for a speedy recovery of John Drier, who is sick with typhoid fever.

#### PROGREDA ECHOES

"And here's a hand, my trusty frere, And gie's a hand o'thine:

And we'll take a right good walliewaught

For auld lang syne."-Burns.

As an organized class we are entering upon our fourth year with bright hopes and high ideals. Our new officers are vigorously grasping the reins and to make 1917 the most successful year we have ever had depends entirely upon our co-operation and unity in class work. Let us forget individual preferences and remember that we stand "all for each and each for all." Mary S. Stover has said, "At last the world pendulum is swinging away from its undue, often morbid exaltation of individuality and the big word of today is "Together." Let "Together" be one of our big ideals, our inspiration, and we cannot help but promote the wellbeing of our individual members, our class and our entire school.

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We are glad to welcome our teacher, Mrs. E. C. Close, upon her return home from a month's sojourn in Florida, and are sorry to hear her report having encountered so much bad weather to mar

an otherwise enjoyable trip.

The regular monthly business meeting for February was held at the home of our Secretary, Miss Margaret Sorgen, on Thompson Avenue. After the business session a most delightful Valentine party was enjoyed at which time the hostesses, Miss Sorgen and Miss Elsie Ferguson, proved themselves novel entertainers. The Valentine idea was carried out in a number of contests and other amusing entertainments, as well as in the delicious refreshments, and such a good time did we have that fourteen little (?) girls failed to hear the curfew and narrowly escaped walking home.

To prove that the social side is a prominent feature of our class life we might also mention the very delightful luncheon for which our teacher was the hostess during the Christmas holidays. The only thing to be regretted was the very inclement weather, which kept quite a few of our number from sharing in this enjoyable evening, to say nothing of the good things to eat, always a prominent trait of "Close hospitality."

Should the services of an expert orchestra be desired, we recommend the one discovered at our January business meeting. For full information see Miss Adah Gumpper or Rev. Schaaf.

#### THE TRUE BLUE CORNER

The February class meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Baumgartner. We chose the motto: "We can and We will." We are going to carry out this motto.

Recently we gave \$5.00 to the Sunday school department and at our last meeting, we decided to give one dollar to the Visitor with the promise of more in the future. We have also decided to get a charter for our class. On the 21st of February, Miss Margaret Ginther, of New Haven, Ind., entertained in honor of Mrs. Baumgartner's birth anniversary. A bountiful chicken supper was enjoyed by all who attended.

We are planning to give a play sometime in April, and we expect the co-

operation of all.

We recently have heard that since our class has started giving \$5.00 to the Sunday School debt two other classes have followed our example. "Every class follow our example and the debt will be paid."

The real value of an object is that which one who knows its worth will give for it. He who made the soul knew its worth and gave His life for it.

"Brightness holds attention; earnestness impresses the mind; instruction builds character, but love wins the soul."

The Miyagi Class is going to organize in a short time and we expect to do some active class work in the future.

#### C. E. NOTES

Topics for March and leaders are as follows:

March 4—"Service" (Jas. 1:19-27).
Consecration meeting; leader, Helen

March 11—"Spreading the Good News—Personal Evangelism" (John 1: 35-42 — Acts 8:14-17); leader, Mrs. Baumgartner.

March 18—"The Curse of Cowardice" (John 18:15-27); leader, Arthur

Weiler.

March 25—"The Saloon the Foe of Society" (Isa. 59:1-8); leader, Mr.

Baumgartner.

Officers for the following year are: President, Ernest Baumgartner; vicepresident, Robert Bitner; secretary, Evelyn Aiken; treasurer, Clarence Aiken.

The C. E. Society has a contest on which divides the society in two sections. Mr. Aiken and Mr. Baumgartner are the leaders. The losing side is to entertain the winners. The purpose of the contest is to see which can get the most credits in efficiency.

#### OFFICERS OF JUNIOR C. E.

President, Gladys Payne. Vice-President, Helen Crumb. Secretary, Freda Trautman. Treasurer, Donald Close. Pianist. Dorthy Shunk.

The Junior C. E. Society was organized Sunday afternoon, January 14, with a charter membership of eighteen. Officers were elected and committees appointed. We now have a membership of twenty-two and hope many of the boys and girls will join us in this great work. We want the parents to take a special interest in this, work and they can help by sending their children to the meetings which are held every Sunday afternoon at 2:45. The boys and girls are doing very good work in this society.

Lulu Bitner, Supt.
Bertha Wickert. Assistant.

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